

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/666,117

Examiner

KELLY L. JERABEK

Applicant(s)

TAKAIWA ET AL.

Art Unit

2622

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 4/14/2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6, 7, 9, 10 and 16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in an interview with John Torrente on 6/22/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 6, line 13, please delete "first reduced image and the first image data is larger" and replace it with "first reduced image data and the first reduced image data is larger".

In claim 6, lines 10-11, please delete "enlargement display process" and replace it with "an enlargement display process".

In claim 16, lines 6-7, please delete "first reduced image and the first image data is larger" and replace it with "first reduced image data and the first reduced image data

is larger".

In claim 16, line 4, please delete "enlargement display process" and replace it with "an enlargement display process".

In claim 16, line 15, please delete "an user interface" and replace it with "a user interface".

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-7, 9-10 and 16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Re claims 6-7 and 9-10, the prior art fails to teach or suggest, "An image pickup apparatus comprising: a user interface including a photographing instruction unit which issues a photographing instruction of image data and a mode instruction unit which changes a mode of the apparatus between a plurality of different modes including a photographing mode for photographing image data and a display mode for displaying an image of the image data written on a recording medium; an image pickup unit which obtains, in the photographing mode, original image data in accordance with the photographing instruction; **an image processing unit which generates, in the**

photographing mode, first reduced image data, second reduced image data for an enlargement display process of enlarging and displaying a part of the first reduced image data and thumbnail data from the original image data obtained by said image pickup unit, wherein the second reduced image data is larger than the first reduced image data and the first image data is larger than the thumbnail data; an image file generation unit which generates, in the photographing mode, an image file by storing the original image data, the first reduced image data corresponding to the original image data, the second reduced image data corresponding to the original image data and the thumbnail data of the original image data into one image file; an interface unit which writes the image file generated by said image file generation means on the recording medium and reads out the image file from the recording medium, wherein the interface unit writes the image file on the recording medium in the photographing mode, and reads the image file from the recording medium in the display mode; a display unit which displays, in the display mode, the first reduced image data and the second reduced image data stored in the image file read out from the recording medium by said interface unit; and a control unit which controls said display unit, in the display mode in response to an instruction of enlarging part of the first reduced image data displayed by said display unit, so as to select a part of the second reduced image data and to display the selected part of the second reduced image data stored in the image file which stores the first reduced image data and is read out from the recording medium by said interface unit instead of the first reduced image data".

Re claim 16, the prior art fails to teach or suggest, "An image pickup apparatus comprising: an image pickup unit which obtains original image data; **an image processing unit which generates first reduced image data, second reduced image data for an enlargement display process of enlarging and displaying a part of the first reduced image data and thumbnail data from the original image data obtained by said image pickup unit, wherein the second reduced image data is larger than the first reduced image data and the first image data is larger than the thumbnail data; an image file generation unit which generates an image file by storing the original image data, the first reduced image data corresponding to the original image data, the second reduced image data corresponding to the original image data and the thumbnail data of the original image data into one image file; an interface unit which writes the image file generated by said image file generation means on a recording medium and reads out the image file from the recording medium; a display unit; a user interface including a photographing instruction unit which issues a photographing instruction of the image data and a mode instruction unit which changes a mode of the apparatus to one of a photographing mode in which the image pickup unit obtains the original image data in accordance with the photographing instruction issued by the photographing instruction unit, the image processing unit generates the first reduced image data, the second reduced image data and the thumbnail data, the image file generation unit generates the image file and the interface unit writes the image file on the recording medium, and a display mode**

in which the interface unit reads the image file from the recording medium and the display unit displays the first reduced image data and the second reduced image data stored in the image file read out from the recording medium by said interface unit".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contacts

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kelly L. Jerabek whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7312**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan can be reached at **(571) 272-3022**. The fax phone number for submitting all Official communications is **(571) 273-7300**. The fax phone number for submitting informal communications such as drafts, proposed amendments, etc., may be faxed directly to the Examiner at **(571) 273-7312**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Kelly L. Jerabek/
Examiner, Art Unit 2622